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Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: international migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development

Guyana*: draft resolution

International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development adopted at Cairo, in particular chapter X, on international migration,[1] and the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[2] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[3] and in the Platform for Action[4] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,

Recalling also its resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994, 50/123 of 20 December 1995, and 52/189 of 18 December 1997, on international migration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council decision 1995/313 of 27 July 1995,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of the principles set forth in the instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[5] Resolution 217 A (III).

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of Racial Discrimination,[6] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[7] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[8]

Recalling that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should carry out their respective responsibilities as entrusted to them in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as by the relevant United Nations conferences of the 1990s, in the formulation of policies and the provision of guidance to and coordination of United Nations activities in the field of population and development, including activities on international migration,

Noting in particular that the role of relevant United Nations organizations that address migration issues should be strengthened so that they can deliver adequate technical support to developing countries to ensure that migration contributes to development,

Recognizing the majority views expressed by respondents to the survey as contained in the report of the Secretary-General[9] in support of convening an international conference on migration and development, and recognizing also the diversity of views expressed regarding the scope, form and agenda of the conference,

Noting in particular the current lack of migration data and the need for such data, as well as a coherent theory to explain international migration, and a better understanding of the complex interrelationships between migration and development,

Noting the critical role of the existing forums within the United Nations system in addressing the issues of international migration and development, including through the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission on Human Rights, the Committee for Development Policies, the International Labour Organization and other relevant key organizations,

Noting also that meetings and conferences were held in the context of regional cooperation, including the International Symposium: Towards Regional Cooperation in Irregular/Undocumented Migration, held at Bangkok from 21 to 23 April 1999, which adopted the Bangkok Declaration on Irregular Migration, the Commonwealth of Independent States conference on migration, the Regional Conference on Migration in North and Central America, and the migration capacity-building and regional cooperation meetings organized by the International Migration Policy Programme with senior government officials from Eastern and Central Europe at Budapest in November 1998 and senior government officials from southern Africa at Pretoria in April 1999 and to be held at Bangkok in November 1999 with Governments from Asia and the Pacific,

Noting further the establishment of the International Migration Policy Programme in May 1998 by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Organization for Migration, and the United Nations Population Fund, to be implemented in partnership with the International Labour Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant international and regional institutions with a view to strengthening the capacity of Governments in different regions to manage migration flows at national and regional levels and thus to foster cooperation among States towards orderly migration,

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[6] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[7] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[8] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[9] A/54/207.

Aware that the process of globalization and liberalization, including the increasing interdependence of economies, as well as the increasing marginalization of developing countries in the global economy, have contributed to large flows of peoples between and among countries, and has intensified the complex phenomenon of international migration,

Aware also that in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles, there is a need to make further efforts to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all migrants and their families are protected, and to improve the situation of all documented migrants and their families,

Recognizing the importance from an analytical and operational point of view of identifying the existing linkages among the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to international migration and development, and of the need for comprehensive, coherent and effective policies on international migration based on the spirit of genuine partnership and common understanding,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development;[9]

2. *Urges* Member States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development in order to address the root causes of migration, especially those related to poverty, and to maximize the benefits of international migration to those concerned;

3. *Encourages* interregional, regional and subregional mechanisms to continue to address the question of migration and development;

4. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing mandated activities, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, and to provide appropriate support for interregional, regional and subregional processes and activities on international migration and development;

5. *Also calls upon* the international community to seek to make the option of remaining in one's country viable for all people, to which end efforts to achieve sustainable economic and social development, ensuring a better economic balance between developed and developing countries, should be strengthened;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to solicit more views from Member States, particularly those that have not responded to the survey requested in pursuance of its previous resolution, as well as from the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration and other relevant organizations, both within and outside the United Nations system, on the report of the Secretary-General submitted at the fifty-second session, bearing in mind various regional processes, and to recommend ways and means to address the problems related to migration and development, including the possibility of convening an international conference on international migration and development;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to initiate appropriate action through the regional commissions in order to ensure the carrying out of interregional activities, such as seminars, expert meetings or symposia, with the contribution of the relevant actors on issues relating to international migration and development, taking into account, *inter alia*, the report of the Secretary-General[9] and also requests the United Nations bodies and other appropriate international organizations to provide support to such activities;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session that will, *inter alia*, summarize the lessons learned, as

well as best practices on migration management and policies, from the various activities relating to international migration and development which have been carried out at the regional and interregional levels, and recommending for the consideration of the Assembly policy actions that could be pursued at the international level, taking into account, *inter alia*, the following:

(a) The results of meetings and conferences relating to migration and development held in the context of regional cooperation;

(b) The report of the Committee for Development Policy on its examination of the issue of migration and development;

(c) The report of the Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development, held at The Hague from 29 June to 3 July 1999;

(d) The work of the relevant international organizations, bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations in the field of international migration and development;

(e) The possible mechanisms to examine in a comprehensive and integrated manner all issues and questions pertinent to international migration and development;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session an assessment of migration data within the various regions and between regions, including, where possible, simulation studies on replacement migration, with a view to providing countries with useful information pertinent to migration management and policies;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item "International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development".